CLAIMS

1. A directory server coupled to a first network, the first network coupled to a network device that comprises information identifying the network device on the first network, the directory server comprising:

a memory; and

a message processor adapted to register the identification information in a directory table in the memory.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network device comprises one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network device further comprises a network connection for coupling to the first network.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a local area network.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the directory server is coupled to the first network via a second network that comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet.

9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the network device is located within the firewall.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the directory server is located outside the firewall.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the identifying information comprises an address.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the identifying information comprises an address of the network device on the first network.

13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first network is coupled to a second network, and the identifying information comprises an address of the first network on the second network.

14. A directory server coupled to a first network, the first network coupled to a network device that comprises information identifying an address of the network device on the first network, the directory server comprising:

a memory; and

a message processor adapted to receive an identification message from the network device, the identification message comprising the address, the message processor adapted to parse the identification message to retrieve the address and store the address in the memory.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the network device comprises one of a computer, personal digital assistant, pager, cellular telephone, handheld messaging device, facsimile machine, copier, printer, telephone, security camera, household appliance, vending machine, kiosk, or digital camera.

16. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the network device comprises one of an inkjet printer, laser printer, wide format printer, or dot matrix printer.

17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the network device comprises an Internet protocol telephone.

18. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the network device further comprises a network connection for coupling to the first network.

19. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first network comprises a local area network.

20. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first network comprises a plurality of interconnected networks.

21. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first network is coupled to a second network that comprises any of a wide area network, global network, public network, or the Internet.

22. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the network device is located within the firewall.

23. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first network comprises a firewall, and the directory server is located outside the firewall.

24. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the first network is coupled to a second network, and the address comprises an address of the first network on the second network.